

April 8.

April 9.

April 9.

RECEIPTS IN GREAT VARIETY.

Sch. John Hays Hammond Made Four Halibut Trips.

There is a fair bunch of fish here today, including three splitting trips down from Boston, another direct from Brown's bank, one fresh halibut, a Georges handliner and three small pollock fares.

Sch. John Hays Hammond, Capt. Christopher Gibbs, is here from Quero bank with 25,000 pounds of halibut and a few salt and fresh fish. This is Capt. Gibbs' fourth trip thus far this year and he is certainly setting a hot pace, being the only one of the halibut fleet to make four trips since the season opened, and is high line of the fleet to date.

Sch. Carrie C. from Georges handlining brings 25,000 pounds of salt cod and 3000 pounds of halibut.

From Boston for the splitters, are schs. Hortense with 70,000 cod and haddock, sch. Mary DeCosta with 80,000 pounds and sch. Mary B. Greer with 75,000 pounds.

Sch. Thomas S. Gorton is here from Brown's bank with 80,000 pounds of fresh fish, mostly haddock, sch. Fannie E. Prescott came down from Boston yesterday afternoon with 80,000 pounds of fresh fish and 3000 pounds of halibut. This craft will probably go to Port Clyde, Me., with her fish.

Steamers Mystery, Quoddy and Nomad have small pollock trips, the fleet not striking any fish to speak of.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Hortense, via Boston, 70,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Mary B. Greer, via Boston, 75,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Fannie E. Prescott, via Boston, 80,000 lbs. fresh fish, 3000 lbs. halibut.

Sch. Carrie C., Georges, 20,000 lbs. salt cod, 3000 lbs. halibut.

Sch. John Hays Hammond, Quero Bank, 25,000 lbs. halibut, 8000 lbs. fresh fish, 4000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Thomas S. Gorton, Brown's Bank, 85,000 lbs. fresh fish, 600 lbs. halibut.

Steamer Mystery, shore, 2500 lbs. pollock.

Steamer Quoddy, shore 7000 lbs. pollock.

Steamer Nomad, shore, 9000 lbs. pollock.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. John R. Bradley, dory handlining.

Sch. Arbutus, dory handlining.

Sch. Georgie Campbell, dory handlining.

Sch. Robert and Carr, shacking.

Sch. Catherine and Ellen, Boston.

Sch. Gladys and Nellie, shore.

Sch. Manomet, shore.

Sch. Flirt, dory handlining.

Sch. Hattie A. Heckman, dory handlining.

Sch. Olympia, drifting.

Sch. Fannie E. Prescott, Port Clyde, Me.

Today's Fish Market.

Bank halibut, 8 cts. per lb. for white and 6 cts. for gray.

Georges halibut, 12 cts. per lb. for white and 10 cts. for gray.

Large halibut cod, \$3 per cwt.; medium cod, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

Trawl salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.

Large salt handline Georges cod, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.00.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$3 per cwt.; medium, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2; snappers, \$1.

Salt pollock, \$1.25 per cwt.; salt haddock, \$1.25; salt hake, \$1.25.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$2 per cwt.; medium do., \$1.65; Eastern cod, large, \$1.60; medium cod, \$1.40; cusk, \$1.60 for large, \$1.20 for medium and 50c for snappers; haddock, 80 cts.; hake, 90 cts.; pollock, round, 65 cts.; dressed, 70 cts.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Gossip of this port, was at Lunenburg, N. S., Sunday.

THE RUSSIAN FISHERIES.

Disappointing Result of the Catch in That Country Last Year.

It appears that the fisheries in the Caspian and Volga were disappointing last year, the catch of "vobla" and herrings being less and the quality of caviar, amounting to 2,000 poods, or about 32 tons, was much below the normal, so that the exports have been reduced by about half. The opening of the Taschkent railway has given a stimulus to fishing in the Aral and Inland Sea. Better results were obtained in the far east. The catch in the Anadyr district amounted to 150,000 poods, yielding 3,000 poods of caviar. In addition, 800 barrels of fish were salted on the Japanese system, and 300,000 fish were refrigerated. On the Lower Amur the salmon fishing was good and the results in the Nikolaeff district were noteworthy, the total being 6,870,000 poods, yielding 86,766 poods of caviar. The Siberian report for 1909 is unfavorable.

Foreign Trade Conditions.

In the view of a prominent exporter, consignments at this time "are particularly hazardous, as it is so very easy to report damaged quality as well as declining foreign markets. Holders of good quality are reminded of the danger of having their stock confused with inferior grades that can only be disposed of by forced sale."

With reference to the fish consignment business, the representative of a leading Porto Rican house says:

"It is a perfectly legitimate one, especially in perishable goods. However possible it may be to monopolize certain lines of trade, we do not yet believe that any house here has the exclusive control of honest dealing. No doubt the consignment business offers opportunities for questionable dealings; but that is not its fault, as dishonest transactions are frequently uncovered in many other avenues of trade. The vice is not inherent so much to the nature of a business as to the character of the individual engaged therein."—Fishing Gazette.

The Fishing Gazette says of salt fish conditions generally:

"The usual post-Lenten dullness is now being experienced in the salt fish trade, but a fair revival of business is confidently looked for. In Europe the Oporto market is beginning to show more stability and prices lately have hardened. The foreign outlook in general is better.

"Prices in the local market are easier for Scotch herring, as the demand is light, and holders desire to dispose of their stocks rather than put them into cold storage.

"In Holland herring the demand has practically ceased. Sales are made in a hand-to-mouth way. Stocks are small and prices are unchanged.

"The Irish mackerel fishing continues poor. Demand for foreign and domestic mackerel is quiet, with quotations practically unchanged from last week.

"The export codfish market here is only moderately well sustained, pressure being brought to bear principally by weak holders of Pacific Coast fish in New York, to which is added some pressure by holders at various points desirous of cleaning up the balance of the old stock grading from good to inferior. Inquiry since the close of Lent has been light, and values are gradually shading off from the high figures ruling a while ago.

"The very mild weather does not make holders any firmer and is apt to increase new stock rapidly."

Florida Red Snapper Fishing Notes.

The fishing at Pensacola has been first class during the last week. Among arrivals for Warren Fish Co., were, Mary L. Harty, 11,000 red snappers and 8000 groupers; Alcoma, 20,000 red snappers and 4000 groupers; Ariola, 25,000 red snappers and Oceola, 35,000 red snappers. Crew of the last named vessel will share \$75 each. Red snappers have been bringing three and one-half cents per pound, while groupers have been going at a cent and a half a pound.

The Oceola has been one of the luckiest smacks this season, having several times brought in over 30,000 pounds of snappers, and seldom less than 20,000 pounds. On the last trip she was out exactly 22 days and a greater part of the time having been consumed in making the trip to and from the fishing grounds.

The smack Cavalier of E. E. Saunders & Co., also brought 35,000 pounds red snappers. She was out the same number of days as the Oceola. Other smacks to the same company were: Lottie S. Haskins, 18,000 red snappers and 10,000 groupers; Clara R. Harwood, 16,000 snappers; Caviar, 24,000 snappers and 5000 groupers; John M. Keen, 24,000 snappers and 15,000 groupers; Carrie B. Welles, 17,000 snappers; Lottie G. Harwood, 8000 snappers and 12,000 groupers and Frances Louis, 5000 snappers.

Mackerel have not put in an appearance up to this time.

The fishing smack, George Willard, arrived at St. Petersburg, Fla., with 5000 pounds of snappers and 2000 pounds of groupers. She took in ice and stores and went to sea on the 25th.

Shipments of fish from St. Petersburg remain small. There is a scarcity of fish of all kinds. The fishing smack, Two-Forty, of Tampa, on her way to sea, stopped and three of her crew coming ashore in a dory got in the way of the steamer, Teddy Louise. The men had a narrow escape. Their dory was wrecked.

Tampa smacks have made very small catches, the largest trip being that of the Telegram with 14,000 pounds of snappers and 4000 groupers.

The Gulf Fisheries sch. Cape Horn arrived at Galveston a few days ago with 27,000 pounds of red snappers. The vessel was out 21 days. The fish were caught close off Galveston island.

April 9.

Irish Mackerel Fishery.

Writing under date of March 2, the correspondent of The Fishing Gazette in Ireland says:

"The last of the mackerel has been shipped to Liverpool, and most of it has been sold there at 38s to 40s ex quay; so that now the Irish coast has cleared all cured mackerel, which has not occurred for nearly three years before. Hence our fishermen and curers are looking forward to spring and summer curing with more hope than for the past two seasons.

"Of course, the curers at this station are handicapped by having to compete with Norwegians, a number of which cure mackerel here during the spring and summer season, bringing salt and barrels from Norway. The first season (three years ago) they brought hands from Norway; but they soon found that our people were far better up in curing. Consequently local labor has latterly been employed.

"Last season the fish were graded and repacked here and shipped direct to the United States branded "Irish mackerel, Norwegian cure," while they were actually cured by the Irish people.

"Our spring and summer mackerel fishing opens this year about March 20, but it is not likely that any curing will be done before the middle of May.

"There has been a record catch of herring at Buncrana, Donegal, within the past month, and of very fine quality. Great numbers were sent to the fresh market and some were cured for the continent.

"Irishmen very greatly appreciate the efforts of Col. Zimmerman, president of the Ann Arbor Railroad, Detroit, Mich., to aid and improve the fishing industry on the west coast, and to bring the producer of mackerel and the American consumer into more intimate touch."

Portland Notes.

Thursday's arrivals: Steamer Carrie & Mildred, with 5000 lbs. fish.

Sch. Edmund F. Black, fishing.

Schs. Elizabeth W. Nunan and Sadie Nunan put in for bait.

Within a few weeks, probably before the middle of the month, a number of the local lobster smacks will set sail for Nova Scotia. The provincial season is now on and the crustaceans are being rushed to the United States by the thousands. Thursday it was reported that there were 180,000 in Boston alone and the market was flooded to such an extent that the price was way down. None of the provincial brand has as yet made its appearance in Portland, but the first shipments are expected to arrive here by the last of the month.

It looked as if the fishing schooner Bernie and Bessie was in a very bad way Thursday afternoon. She lay in the dock between Long and Commercial wharves almost on her beam ends, with her masts slanting at an angle of 45 degrees. The only accident that had happened came from a very low tide which caught the schooner and allowed her to tip. When the water rose in the evening she righted herself without trouble.

May Can Lobster Waste.

Some weeks ago a gentleman named Kampt came to St. Johns from Montreal to lay before some of the city merchants a project for canning parts of the lobster which, up to the present, have been thrown away by the packers. The parts to be utilized include both body and shell, the latter being ground up finely before canning. An experiment will be made at once.

April 9.

MACKEREL TRIP CAUSES MUCH TALK.

Many Wagers Made on Next Fare and Where It Will Be Landed.

The news of the first arrival out south with a fresh mackerel fare has set everybody talking mackerel and guesses are now in order as to who will be the next lucky craft to follow Capt. Solomon Jacobs and get in with a fare, either at Fortress Monroe or New York. Numerous wagers have been made as to when the first fare will be brought to the latter port.

The most general wager among fish men is to the effect that a trip will or will not reach New York by April 10, which is tomorrow.

The fish of sch. Elmer E. Gray, which were landed at Fortress Monroe yesterday morning, were immediately shipped by fast freight to Chesebro Bro., Fulton Market, New York, and were due to arrive there at 11 o'clock this forenoon. Early this morning the concern had put no price on them, and it seems to be the general idea that they may not be put on the market un-

til Monday morning. They are sure to bring a big price.

First Receipts in Previous Years.

The following table gives the number of fresh mackerel arrivals out south and their fares, for the past nine years up to April 8 of each year:

- 1909—No arrivals.
- 1908—Seventeen arrivals with 1906 barrels.
- 1907—Two arrivals with 70 barrels.
- 1906—Two arrivals with 40 barrels.
- 1905—One arrival with 36 barrels.
- 1904—Nine arrivals with 855 barrels.
- 1903—Eight arrivals with 296 barrels.
- 1902—Sixteen arrivals with 1551 barrels.

Will Fit Sch. Francis J. O'Hara, Jr.

Capt. Jerry E. Cook will now fit sch. Francis J. O'Hara, Jr., for mackerel seining.

Salt Mackerel Imports.

The imports of salt mackerel at Boston to date, of the catch of 1909 are 32,868 barrels, against 42,895 barrels to date last year, of the catch of 1908.

April 9.

BOSTON FISH PRICES IMPROVED

But Little Stock on Hand at Close of Week.

A little improvement is noted in prices at T wharf today. Shore haddock touched \$3 and shore cod sold right through for \$2.50. Some off-shore haddock were taken out at \$1 and some large off-shore cod brought \$2.10. Hake, pollock and cusk sold for \$1.25, but not many were bought.

There is not much fish at the dock this morning. Yesterday afternoon sch. Aspinet came in with 92,000 pounds of mixed fish and 5000 pounds of halibut, from the Cape Shore and three of the little shore boats had small catches.

This morning sch. Mooanam with 80,000 pounds of cod and haddock is the only off shore trip in. This craft and sch. Aspinet will take part of their fares to Gloucester.

Beside these, there are four market boats in, mostly with small catches, schs. Margaret Dillon, with 35,000 pounds, having the only fare of note.

For the week ending Thursday, there were 120 arrivals at Boston, with 3,146,400 pounds of fresh fish against 177 arrivals with 2,725,300 pounds for the corresponding week last year.

The receipts and prices in detail are:

Boston Arrivals.

- Sch. Ignatius Enos, 3500 cod.
- Sch. Laura Enos, 5000 cod.
- Sch. Valentinna, 6000 haddock, 3000 cod, 1000 hake, 5000 cusk, 500 pollock.
- Sch. Mooanam, 50,000 haddock, 30,000 cod.
- Sch. Margaret Dillon, 17,000 haddock, 16,000 cod, 1000 hake, 1000 cusk.
- Sch. Maxwell, 2000 cod.
- Sch. Isabel, 3500 haddock, 1000 cod.
- Sch. Eva Avina, 1000 cod.
- Sch. Aspinet, 22,000 haddock, 37,000 cod, 13,000 hake, 13,000 cusk, 2000 pollock, 5000 halibut.
- Off-shore haddock, \$1 per cwt.; off shore large cod, \$2.10; shore haddock, \$3; shore cod, \$2.50; hake, \$1.25; cusk, \$1.25; pollock, \$1.25; halibut, 10 cts. per lb.

Inspected New Freezer.

The new freezer for the fish trade, which has been completed at 2 New street, East Boston, was opened for inspection yesterday. It is owned by a company of which John Burns, Jr., is president and Frank R. Neal is secretary, and the board of directors is made up of business men on T wharf. The freezer has a capacity of 5,000,000 pounds, and will begin operations at once.

April 9.

SHACK TRIPS WILL GO TO SPLITTERS

Two Large Fares at This Port This Morning.

Two big shack fares is the feature of the fishing arrivals here today, sch. Thalia coming down from Boston with 90,000 pounds of cod and haddock and sch. Esperanto, Capt. Frank Enslo, came in this morning with a fine fare of 100,000 pounds of fresh fish, mostly codfish. Both trips will go to the splitters.

Yesterday afternoon steamer Quoddy came in with 10,000 fresh fish and steamer Nomad had 7000 pounds.

The arrival of Capt. Solomon Jacobs at Fortress Monroe yesterday with the first fare of fresh mackerel has set everybody talking mackerel and from now on mackerel will be the feature and shack will be lost to sight. The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

- Sch. Thalia, via Boston, 90,000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Sch. Esperanto, Brown's Bank, 100,000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Steamer Quoddy, shore, 10,500 lbs. fresh fish.
- Steamer Nomad, shore, 7000 lbs. fresh fish.
- From Essex, yesterday, 8 bbls. alewives.

Vessels Sailed.

- Sch. Harriet, haddocking.
- Sch. Eglantine, drifting.
- Sch. Corsair, drifting.
- Sch. Alice M. Guthrie, haddocking.
- Sch. Mildred Robinson, Cape North shacking.
- Sch. Nellie Dixon, south seining.
- Sch. Maud F. Silva, shore.
- Sch. Actor, shore.
- Sch. Edith Silveria, shore.
- Sch. Mary E. Sinnett, shore.
- Sch. Manomet, shore.
- Sch. Margie Smith, pollock seining.
- Steamer Nomad, shore.
- Steamer Quoddy, shore.
- Sch. Claudia, halibuting.
- Sch. Mary DeCosta, haddocking.
- Sch. Norma, dory handling.
- Sch. Madonna, dory handling.
- Sch. Lafayette, south mackerel netting.

Today's Fish Market.

- Bank halibut, 7 cts. per lb. for white and 5 cts. for gray.
- Georges halibut, 12 cts. per lb. for white and 10 cts. for gray.
- Large halibut cod, \$3 per cwt.; medium cod, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.
- Trawl salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.
- Large salt handline Georges cod, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.00.
- Trawl bank cod, large, \$3 per cwt.; medium, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

April 9.

107

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2; snappers, \$1.
Salt pollock, \$1.25 per cwt.; salt haddock, \$1.25; salt hake, \$1.25.
Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$2 per cwt.; medium do., \$1.65; Eastern cod, large, \$1.50; medium cod, \$1.40; cusk, \$1.60 for large, \$1.20 for medium and 50c for snappers; haddock, 80 cts.; hake, 90 cts.; pollock, round, 65 cts.; dressed, 70 cts.

April 9.

A FRIDAY FISH AUCTION.

How the Catches of the New Orleans Men Are Disposed Of.

In the French fish market of New Orleans a unique method is employed in the disposal of fish at wholesale. The catches of the fishermen are auctioned off to the highest bidder, and it is an interesting sight to see early on Friday mornings the groups of fishermen, each with many varieties of fish, all bunched together in "hands" and the same auctioned off. The entire lot is sold at one time, the price depending on the scarcity of the supply. This is probably the only market in the country where this method prevails. Speckled trout sometimes bring as high as \$6 and \$7 per hand of five bunches. Red fish at \$3 to \$4 per hand, and other fish in proportion.

April 9.

First Netter Sails.

The first craft of the southern mackerel netting fleet sch. Lafayette, Capt. George Peeples, sailed today.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Schs. Meteor and Lottie G. Merchant were at Liverpool, N. S., on Wednesday and cleared.

April 9.

Halibut Sale.

Sch. John Hays Hammond, Capt. Christopher Gibbs, stocked \$1900 on her recent short halibut trip. The fare was sold to the New England Fish Company at 7 cents per pound for white and 5 cents for gray.

Sch. Colonial Spoken.

Capt. Christopher Gibbs of sch. John Hays Hammond reports speaking sch. Colonial on Quere bank recently.

April 11.

ITALIAN LOBSTER CATCHERS.

Said to be Preparing to Supply New York Market With "Shorts."

A party of Italians from New York have camped on Green island, five miles from Harpswell in Cumberland county, Maine, and it is their intention to catch lobsters and send them to the New York market. Already they have put out 300 traps and are planning to set many more. This action has caused much indignation among the local Maine lobster fishers, and they have communicated with Commissioner Donahue in relation to the matter, as they believe these intruders intend to catch short lobsters and send them out of the state. Commissioner Donahue said yesterday:

"The lobster catchers at Harpswell and other places along the coast have asked me to appoint three of their number wardens, and say that the men selected will serve the state without pay. These men belong to the Lobster Catchers' Union and they are greatly interested in protecting the lobster. On account of the work already done there has been an increase in lobsters and there are thousands of young ones. The local men are indignant that these men from away should come here as they believe to engage in a business which the state law says is illegal. The union men are doing the state a great service in acting as wardens without pay, for, if we had to give salaries they could not be hired as there is not sufficient appropriation for this purpose. I trust the intruders will so conduct themselves that there will be no clash between them and the local fishermen."

Commissioner Donahue left Rockland Thursday morning in the government boat, the Sheldrake, for a week's cruise to the westward in the interests of the lobstermen and to prepare to begin the season's work in planting lobsters.

April 11.

Large Pacific Halibut Catches.

The New England Fish Company's steamer Kingfisher arrived at the company's new plant at Ketchikan, Alaska, March 23, with 150,000 pounds of fresh halibut and the steamer Manhattan, another of the company's fleet, arrived there the same day with a fare of 180,000 pounds. The steamer New England was expected in a few days with 125,000 pounds. This is "some halibut."